cent in India's imports U. S. dollars during April-May 1993 in comparison to corresponding period last year; and

(d) if so, what steps government propose to take to achieve the projected growth rate of imports/exports during the Eighth Plan period (1993-97)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) As per provisional figures, the exports during April-May 1993, the latest period for which such data are available, have increased to US $ 3458.58 million as compared to US $ 2666.83 million in April-May 92 signifying growth of 29.69%. In the background of emerging trends in export growth in the recent months, the target is considered to be achievable.

(c) The export-import policy announced on 31st March 92 is valid for a period of 5 years and is co-terminus with the Eighth Five Year Plan, 1992-97. The Government have taken Policy initiatives by way of liberalisation of trade which, inter alia, include provision of export linked imports, full convertibility of rupee on trade account, reduction in customs duties and increases in availability of credit at lower rate of interest so as to create an environment which is conducive for export promotion.

556. *[Transferred to 10th August, 1993]*.

Boosting of Indian Exports

557. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India can double its exports by 1995-96 in case there is a close co-ordination between the Centre and State Governments and the industry as suggested by the experts;

(b) whether Government have agreed to these suggestions; and

(c) if so, to what extent they have agreed to co-ordinate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) It is recognised that close coordination between the Centre and State Governments and industry is necessary for boosting India's exports though the Ministry is not aware of the specific forum of experts which linked such coordination with doubling of exports by 1995-96. The Government is maintaining close contact and coordination on a continuous basis.

The Government has made special efforts to actively involve the state governments in exports efforts by setting up apex export boards/calls. The Government is also having a close interaction with the industry to support its export efforts.

चाय उद्योग पर उपकर लगाया जाना

558. **डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन**:
श्री राम जेठमलानी:

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में चाय उद्योग पर उपकर लगाकर कर वसूल किया जाता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस प्रकार वसूल की गई राशि की मात्रा प्रत्येक वर्ष कितनी रही;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि चाय बोर्ड के माध्यम से उपकर द्वारा प्राप्त इस राशि को चाय का उत्पादन तथा गुणवत्ता में वृध्दि के लिए प्रयुक्त किया जाता है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो चाय बोर्ड के अन्तर्गत इस प्रयोजन हेतु अनुसंधान-कार्य में कुल कितने संस्थान लगे हुए हैं तथा उनका वार्षिक बजट कितना है; और

(ङ) चाय बोर्ड द्वारा उपकर से प्राप्त धनराशि की कौन-कौन सी मद पर तथा किस-किस अनुपात में आम तौर पर अभी तक खर्च किया गया है?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद): (क) और (ख) चाय अधिनियम, 1953 के प्रावधानों के अन्तर्गत सभी किस्म की उत्पादित चाय पर उपकर लगाया जाता है। उपकर की वर्तमान दर 8 पैसे प्रति किलो तथा 15 पैसे प्रति किलो है जोकि चाय उत्पादन क्षेत्र पर निर्भर करती है। पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान चाय पर एकत्रित उपकर निम्नानुसार रहा है:—

वर्ष	एकत्रित उपकर
	(करोड़ रु० में)
1990-91	12.07
1991-92	12.34